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The PAMPA NEWS

Thursday, September 10, 2009 Volume 105 • No. 118 50¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

Testimony continues in King trial

LUBBOCK — A Missouri deputy sheriff took the stand today to tell a Lubbock jury how Levi Alexia King, 27, first confessed to murdering a Gray County family in the early morning hours of Sept. 30, 2005.

King pleaded guilty last week to killed Brian Conrad, 31, and his pregnant wife Michell, 35, along with Michell's son Zach Doan, 14, in the wee

hours of that fall morning in their rural home 13 miles south of Pampa.

King's trial has now moved to the punishment phase in a Lubbock courtroom where it has been moved on a change of venue.

Pampa District Attorney Lynn Switzer is seeking the death penalty.

King's defense team, Joe Mar Wilson and Maxwell Peck III, are trying to con-

vince 12 jurors and one alternate to give King life in prison without parole.

King had been convicted of burglary and arson in his hometown of Pineville, Mo., and served two years of a 14-year sentence in prison before being sent to a halfway house in St. Louis. He walked away from there and hitchhiked home to see his family in Pineville in southwest Missouri.

On Sept. 29, King's father took him to the bus station in Pineville and dropped him off, but instead of getting on a bus, King followed his father home and waited for his to leave. Then he went into the house and with a hatchet tore it up and stole a rifle, an AK-47 assault rifle and at least one pistol from his father's gun safe.

Walking into Pineville from his rural home, King

saw Orlie McCool, 70, and Dawn McCool, Orlie's 47-year-old daughter-in-law, leave their home.

King entered the McCool home and when the McCools came back unexpectedly, shot them both to death.

He then took Orlie McCool's Dodge pickup and drove south to Interstate 40 and then turned west.

TRIAL cont. on page 3

The Harvesters are enjoying their new Turf and you should too.

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NEW AMBULANCES ARRIVE



staff photo by David Bowser
Pampa City Manager Richard Morris, left, and Joe Anstey, the chief administrator of Pampa's new ambulance service talk about the new ambulances that arrived in town this morning. Anstey said the state will conduct a site visit here this month, part of the service's certification process, and should be ready to begin making emergency medical calls by Oct. 1. "It's going to be a real good thing," Anstey said with regard to the new ambulances.

3G comes to Pampa

PAMPA— AT&T today announced the extension of its 3G mobile broadband network to Pampa, providing access to accelerated data speeds that open the door to a new era of mobile services, devices and feature-rich audio and video content.

The extension is one part of AT&T's continual efforts to enhance the speed and performance of its 3G mobile broadband network. It is also part of AT&T's ongoing investment to build the broadband networks that create jobs and fuel economic growth, and enable its customers to quickly access the content, applications and services that matter most to them. From 2006 to 2008, AT&T's total capital investment in Texas was more than \$6 billion.

"This investment in the latest wireless technology is good for business and consumers in Pampa," said state Rep. Warren Chisum. "It will not only keep residents connected but will also help economic development efforts by offering businesses the technology and services that rival those found in our state's biggest cities."

"We continue to make significant investments to deliver dependable high speed wireless



staff photo by Andrew Glover
City Manager Richard Morris, Charles Henry, PEDC CEO Clay Rice, Chamber Director Joe Weaver, Representative Warren Chisum, Lynn Allison, AT&T Regional Director of External Affairs Cameron Monroe and AT&T Regional Manager Christy Sea, were all on hand this morning for the announcement of AT&T's extension of its 3G network to Pampa.

access in more places across Texas for consumers and business customers who need to stay connected to work, family and friends. That includes rural Texas," said Don Cain, president, AT&T Texas. "Our ongoing investments in Texas will help us fulfill this vision while ensuring that our state has access to the advanced wireless broadband services that help drive economic growth."

The broadband wireless network expansion efforts help address the growing demand for advanced wireless data products

Suspects arrested in stabbing

PAMPA— Pampa Police and personnel from Guardian EMS responded to a home in the 1600 block of N. Coffee Saturday morning after receiving a report of a fight in the alley. There they found the victim, Heath Dwayne Kulhanek, with a stab wound to the chest.

Heath reported that he was stabbed by an unknown assailant. He was transported to the Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo via Lifestar helicopter. Heath is expected to make a full recovery from his wounds.

Pampa Police identified the suspect believed to be responsible for the stabbing as Joshua Lee Knoop, 19. It was also learned that Joshua's brother, Adam Chase Knoop, 19, was allegedly at the scene at the time of the stabbing.

They both fled the scene after the incident. Joshua is charged with Attempted Murder, a second degree felony. If convicted Joshua faces confinement up to 20 years and a \$10,000 fine.

Adam is charged with failure to report a felony, a Class A Misdemeanor. If convicted Adam faces confinement up to 1 year and a \$4,000 fine.

Joshua and Adam, both from Pampa, were reported to have fled to Canadian, after the incident.

Wednesday evening Deputies from the Hemphill County Sheriff's Office arrested the Knoop brothers in Canadian. They were both booked into the Hemphill County Jail and are awaiting arraignment.

One biting dog found, one sought

One of the biting dogs sought by local officials has been found.

Monty Montgomery, supervisor of Pampa Animal Control, said yesterday that the city was seeking dogs in two separate incident where stray dogs have bitten residents.

One victim was a 7-year-old girl who was bitten on the hand after playing with the stray animal for some time at her residence.

That dog, a Boxer mixed-breed, has been found.

"It was called in as a stray and we recognized it as the dog," Montgomery said. "It is now quarantined."

If the dog is not infected with Rabies, the girl will not have to take a series of vaccinations.

Montgomery said they are still looking for Border Collie/Australian sheepdog mixed breed, that bit a woman on Labor Day at Recreation Park.

Anyone with information may contact Animal Control at 669-5775 or the Pampa Police at 669-5700.

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PRAYER BREAKFAST
With Pastor Kenny Rigoulot, of First Presbyterian Church
September 11, 2009 6:30 a.m. in the M.K. Brown Room
at the Chamber Building. \$6.50 per person.
Please RSVP to Holly at
669-3241 or holly@pampachamber.com
Rustlers Too will be serving scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, hash browns with biscuits & gravy



For the record

PAMPA FORECAST

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		
High 82 Low 59	High 75 Low 58	High 78 Low 58

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 61. East wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 82. East southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Friday Night: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 59. East southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north northeast.

Saturday: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 75. East northeast wind around 10 mph.

Saturday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 58. East northeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Sunday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 78. Northeast wind around 10 mph.

Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 58. East southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

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Obituaries

Mary Thomas Cowart Veale, 98

Pampa— Mary Thomas Cowart Veale, 98, died September 8, 2009 in Pampa, Texas.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, September 12, 2009, at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, with Rev. Fines Marchman, pastor of First Baptist Church of Skellytown, officiating.

Mrs. Veale will lie in state at Seigler Funeral Home in Paducah from 2 - 4 p.m. on Saturday, September 12, 2009. Graveside services will follow immediately after visitation at the Garden of Memories Cemetery in Paducah, with David Alessandro, minister of the Paducah Church of Christ, officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-

Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa and Seigler Funeral Home of Paducah.

Mrs. Veale was born September 30, 1910 in Young County, Texas, to Jessie and Ola Thomas. She married Lloyd Cowart on September 29, 1929 in Paducah. He preceded her in death on May 29, 1964. She later married Thomas "Tom" Veale on December 29, 1968 in Skellytown. He preceded her in death on November 23, 1993. Mary had been a resident of Skellytown from 1943 until June of 2009 when she moved to Pampa. She worked for Skellytown Independent School District as the school cafeteria manager and cook, retiring in 1972 after 22 years of service.

Mary was a member of the Skellytown Church of Christ. She enjoyed fishing, playing dominoes and spending time with her family.

Survivors include one son, Max Cowart and wife Lucille of Umpire, Arkansas; one daughter, Sue Owens of Pampa; one stepson, James Veale and wife Sue of Granbury; 10 grandchildren, Max Owens and Scot Owens, both of Skellytown, Larry Owens of Amarillo, Terry Owens Rowland of Bethany, Oklahoma, Wilda Turner and Lisa Kitchens, both of Umpire, Arkansas, Tommy Cowart of Dierks, Arkansas, Jonathan Veale of Ennis, Brian Veale of Austin, and Annette Veale of New Boston; 18 great-



Veale

grandchildren, 17 great-great-grandchildren. Mary was preceded in death by a stepson: Dale Veale; 5 sisters, 2 brothers, 4 half-brothers and a half-sister.

SPECIAL NOTICE: The family will receive friends at Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Home from 6:00-8:00 PM on Friday, September 11, 2009.

Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whitley.com

EMERGENCY SERVICES

PAMPA PD

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

There were 25 traffic stops and one accident reported.

There were 16 animal-related calls.

There were three medical-related calls.

Wednesday, Sept. 9.

A sex offender registered.

Police set up radar trailer at 22nd and Chestnut.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 400 block of North Hill.

A civil matter was reported in the 1300 block of West Kentucky.

Criminal trespass was reported to police.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 200 block of East Foster and at Francis and Ward.

Disorderly conduct was

reported in the 1300 block of North Hobart.

A theft was reported in the 700 block of North Bradley Drive.

An alarm was reported in the 2500 block of North Beech.

A civil matter was reported in the 600 block of North Zimmers.

A burglary was reported in the 2600 block of North Navajo.

A suspicious person was reported at Sumner and Wilks.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 1500 block of North Dogwood.

A fire alarm was reported in the 100 block of South Cuyler.

Officers made an attempt to serve some papers in the 100 block of South Neel.

Phone harassment was reported in the 1800 block of North Hamilton.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 600 block of Red Deer.

An assault was reported in the 2300 block of Alcock.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1100 block of North Wells.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 200 block of West Cook.

A suspicious person was reported in the 800 block of Campbell.

A prowler was reported in the 1400 block of West Somerville.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 400 block of Graham.

A suspicious person was reported at Frederic and Schneider.

Thursday, Sept. 10

A suspicious person was reported in the 500 block of West Browning.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1000 block of East Jordan.

A man was arrested at Sloan and Jordan.

SHERIFF

The following people were arrested during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Wednesday, Sept. 9

Henry Lee Williams, 50, was arrested by Pampa police officer on warrants charging him with driving without a license.

Michael Charles Tuttle, 33, was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of assault causing bodily injury on a public servant.

Thursday, Sept. 10

Salvador Rodriguez, 33, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of public intoxication.

David Wilson Leshar, 34, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of driving while intoxicated, second offense.

Billy Dale Bush, 53, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of driving while intoxicated.

Student's practice makes band debut perfect

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Trae Caster managed to stay calm as he stood next to his snare drum on the sideline at Cowboys Stadium, waiting for the big moment.

His mom, Melonie Caster, was the nervous one.

In the moments before Trae's first performance with the Eulless Trinity High School band, Caster paced. She ran over to check on Trae one final time. And she started cry-

ing at the sight of her 16-year-old son standing there in his black band uniform under the bright lights, giant video boards and crowded stands.

"Trae is actually a Trinity Trojan," Caster said. "You'd have to know him. It's been a dream for a really long time and it's like, 'Holy cow, you did it.'"

Ever since her son was a baby, Caster has been told that Trae would never be able to do things like other kids. He suffered a traumatic brain injury at 9 weeks old when a baby sitter violently shook him and possibly threw him against a wall. Doctors said he wouldn't live, but he kept breathing when taken off life support.

Due to the injury, Trae has cerebral palsy that affects his body movement and muscle coordination. He has vision problems and difficulty walking and using his left arm.

"I had always dreamed of baseball cleats and football," Caster reflected Monday as her son took the field. "We were told he would never do this, he would never do that."

The licensed in-home caregiver admitted shaking Trae, but she was not prosecuted. Trae's case inspired a state law in 2001 that extended the statute of limitations for injuries against children and disabled and elderly adults to 10 years from three years.

Soon after, Gov. Rick Perry appointed Caster to the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities, and she became a fierce advocate. Caster has fought to give Trae, now a sophomore,

as many opportunities as possible. He's in regular classes, where he makes nearly straight A's thanks to assistants who help get him from class to class. He plays video games. He's crazy about the musical group the Black Eyed Peas. He recently even helped buy his own car — which someone else must drive for him.

But when Trae said he wanted to take up the drums, Caster said she didn't know what to expect. "I thought, 'How am I going to prepare him and myself if this didn't happen?'" she said.

Initially, Caster had trouble finding someone to give Trae private lessons. But then she met Nate Peace, a high school student who played in the Trinity band and is now in college. He taught Trae for more than a year, and he was in the stands Monday.

The band director at Trinity High School welcomed Trae, who spent long hours at practices during August. He quickly became a part of the band scene, with kids teaching him how to play Hacky Sack and others inviting him to a Texas Rangers game.

The football season started on a high note with Monday's game at

Cowboys Stadium, part of the Kirk Herbstreit Varsity Football Series. The band played in the stands during the first half before gathering on the sideline for the big halftime show.

As the Trojan band took the field, Trae and the other percussion players lined the sideline and kept the beat.

Caster closely watched from nearby — and quickly rushed the field to hug Trae after the final notes.

Andrew Walling, an assistant for the school district, carried Trae's snare drum and helped him back to the stands.

"I know he had fun, and that's what counts," Walling said.

Once Trae was back in his seat, his sisters, brother, stepfather and other family and friends quickly surrounded him.

"It was great! I'm so proud of you," said his grandmother, Brenda

Fetsch, who gave him a big kiss.

But no one was prouder than Melonie Caster.

"It meant everything to

Trae," she said. "It helps to make him feel part of the team."

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
 912 South Gray Street
 The New Hope Church Family cordially invite you to a celebration for Pastor Darren Willis and Sis. Cynthia Willis' 4th Anniversary Services
 Services are:
 Guest Speaker: Morris Mitchell - Friday Sept. 11th at 7:30 p.m.
 Guest Speaker: Joe Coffey - Sunday Sept. 13th at 3:30 p.m.
 Theme: "A Servant for Jesus' Sake" II Corinthians 4:5

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TOP O Texas CattleWomen Fall Style Show, Sept. 12, 10:30a.m., Pampa Country Club. Tickets may be purchased at Carousel Expressions, Bailey Sue & Zoe Toof or 898-0247, 662-7535

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Lawmakers denounce 'You lie' outburst at Obama

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats and Republicans alike are denouncing Rep. Joe Wilson for shouting "You lie" at President Barack Obama during his speech to Congress, an extraordinary breach of decorum for which the South Carolina Republican swiftly apologized.

"I was embarrassed for the chamber and a Congress I love," Vice President Joe Biden said Thursday on ABC's "Good Morning America." "It demeaned the institution."

House Minority Whip Eric Cantor, R-Va., told ABC on Wednesday: "Obviously, the President

of the United States is always welcome on Capitol Hill. He deserves respect and decorum."

"I know that Congressman Wilson has issued an apology and made his thoughts known to the White House, which was the appropriate thing to do," Cantor said.

Wilson's outburst came after Obama said extending health care to all Americans who seek it would not mean insuring illegal immigrants.

"You lie!" Wilson shouted from his seat on the Republican side of the chamber.

After the speech, House Majority Leader Steny

Hoyer, D-Md., said, "There'll be time enough to consider whether or not we ought to make it clear that that action is unacceptable in the House of Representatives."

"Let's see what he does," Hoyer told WTOP radio before Wilson issued an apology. "Then there's time enough to consider further action."

Wilson's behavior caused a political hangover for him and possibly for the Republican critics Obama had cast as shrill and more interested in killing any health care overhaul than finding a way to provide it.

Later, Wilson was con-

trite.

"This evening I let my emotions get the best of me," he said in a statement. "While I disagree with the president's statement, my comments were inappropriate and regrettable. I extend sincere apologies to the president for this lack of civility."

He then tried to call Obama to apologize personally, but ended up talking with White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel instead, Wilson's office said.

Biden said Thursday that he hadn't spoken with Obama, but, "knowing the president, I'm sure he accepted the apology."

By late Wednesday, though, the congressman's Web site had crashed, he had taken a beating on his Twitter page and Democrat Rob Miller had raised thousands of unexpected dollars online for a possible rematch with Wilson in next year's midterm elections, according to Lachlan McIntosh, Miller's campaign manager.

In the eight hours since Wilson's outburst, his Democratic opponent, former-Marine Rob Miller, has received nearly 3,000

individual grassroots contributions raising approximately \$100,000, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee said.

Wilson, a conservative Republican who promotes a strong national defense and reining in the size of government, won a special election to the House in 2001, succeeding the late Rep. Floyd Spence, R-S.C. Wilson had worked on Spence's staff on Capitol Hill and also previously been an intern on the staff of venerable Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C.

Wilson, who is the only Republican who serves on both the House Armed Services and Foreign Affairs committees, is a familiar face on the floor of the chamber, often going there after regular legislative business to make announcements, observations and political points in the so-called "one minutes," a special free-wheeling speaking period given lawmakers, usually in the after hours.

Wilson has been a staunch supporter of the war in Iraq.

"Everybody was stunned," Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., said of

Wilson's eruption. "It was just something that nobody had ever witnessed before. We all felt embarrassed."

Republicans froze; several glanced in Wilson's direction.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi directed a fierce frown at him; first lady Michelle Obama pursed her lips and shook her head from side to side. Biden looked down and shook his head too.

Obama, meanwhile, looked toward the outburst and replied, "That's not true" before going on with his speech.

Wilson appeared to consult his Blackberry for much of the rest of Obama's speech. He shook his head defiantly after several of the president's statements. When Obama finished, Wilson bolted from the chamber.

Wilson's behavior was "totally disrespectful," Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., who had been Obama's rival in the 2008 presidential election, said on CNN. "There is no place for it in that setting, or any other, and he should apologize for it immediately."

Trial

He eventually turned south and made his way through New Mexico to El Paso and across the Mexican border into Juarez.

After three hours of wandering around Juarez, King returned to the U.S. side of the border where he was arrested on warrants charging him with murdering Orlie and Dawn McCool and stealing McCool's pickup.

It wasn't until three weeks later that King told Deputy Ruby in the McDonald County jail in Pineville that he'd killed a family near Groom, Tex.

Ruby called the Carson County Sheriff's office. They contacted the Gray County Sheriff's office who was investigating the deaths of the Conrads and Doan.

Gray County Sheriff Don Copeland along with Deputies Robert Douglas and Chad Brooks traveled to Pineville with Texas Ranger Bart Bivens and then Pampa Police Chief Trevlyn Pitner.

According to Ranger Bivens, who testified Wednesday afternoon, they talked with Ruby and other McDonald County deputies, copied the Missouri reports and talked with King's father, Scott King, at his house.

Bivens brought back some spent cartridges from Scott King's yard that were eventually matched to an AK-47 that had been in Orlie McCool's truck when Levi was arrested in El Paso.

Walter Henson, a Texas Department of Public Safety fingerprint expert, told the Lubbock court that he could not match King's print to the AK-47 or the shell casings, but that was not unusual because the heat and the oil on the gun and casing made it difficult for fingerprints to stand out.

Nor was he able to identify other fingerprints, except for a leather wallet.

Henson matched Levi King's fingerprints to ones on the wallet, which had belonged to Brian Conrad.

Aaron Fullerton, a Texas Department of Public Safety firearms expert, told the court Thursday afternoon that the 15 empty shell casings found at the Conrad house were fired from the AK-47 that had

been in Orlie McCool's truck that King was driving when he was arrested in El Paso.

Three bullets at the Conrad house were fired from the AK-47, Fullerton said, including the bullet

that killed Molly, the family dog.

Fullerton said bullets and fragments of bullets that killed Brian and Michell Conrad were fired from the AK-47.

3G

ing a movie, navigating with turn by turn directions, or listening to music on a mobile device or laptop computer while on the go," said Adam Vital, vice president and general manager for AT&T in North Texas. "Our customers have embraced smartphones, so this upgrade will allow them to enjoy

the benefits of these devices and mobile broadband for years to come."

For more information about AT&T's wireless coverage in Pampa, or anywhere in the United States, visit <http://www.wireless.att.com/coverageviewer/>. The online tool can measure the quality of coverage based on a street address,

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Viewpoints

Today in History

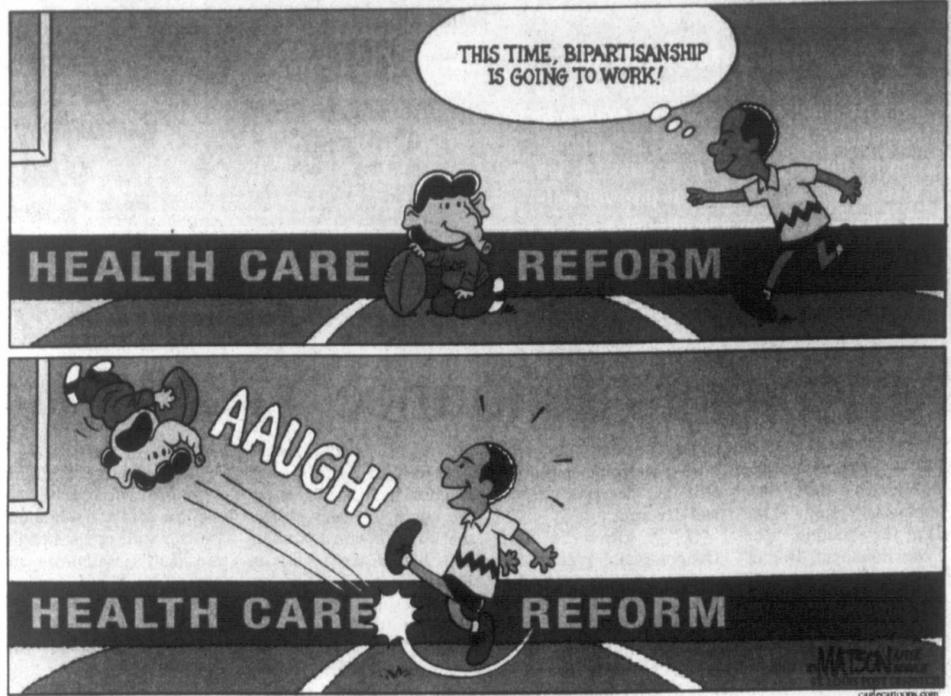
Today is Thursday, September 10, the 253rd day of 2009. There are 112 days left in the year.

- Highlights in history on this date:
- 1526 - Forces under Turkey's Suleiman I capture city of Buda in Hungary.
 - 1654 - Russia's Czar Alexis takes Smolensk, occupied since 1611 by Poland.
 - 1844 - France's war in Morocco ends with Treaty of Tangier.
 - 1885 - Britain makes compromise settlement with Russia over Afghanistan frontier.
 - 1898 - Empress Elizabeth of Austria-Hungary is assassinated by an Italian anarchist in Geneva.
 - 1907 - British colony of New Zealand becomes a dominion.
 - 1939 - German Army gains complete control of western Poland; Canada declares war on Germany.

'Life does not cease to be funny when people died any more than it ceases to be serious when people laugh.'

— George Bernard Shaw
Irish-born playwright

- 1953 - An earthquake destroys villages on Cyprus killing at least 40 people, 100 were seriously injured and thousands left homeless.
 - 1963 - Twenty black students enter public schools in Birmingham, Tuskegee and Mobile, Alabama, following a stand-off between federal authorities and Gov. George C. Wallace, who resisted integration.
 - 1977 - Convicted murderer Hamida Djandoubi, a Tunisian immigrant, is the last person executed by the guillotine in France.
 - 1979 - The Marines decide to reduce their active duty strength by 10,000 men to save money; bringing the Marine Corps to its lowest peacetime level in 18 years.
 - 1984 - The U.S. House of Representatives passes a compromise measure for stronger health warnings on cigarette packages and advertising.
 - 1989 - Hungary decides to allow about 7,000 East German refugees to leave for West Germany.
 - 1993 - Five Somali employees of Cable News Network are killed and four wounded in clan fighting.
 - 1994 - Pope John Paul II begins a visit to former Yugoslavia.
 - 1995 - A U.S. warship in the Adriatic Sea fires Tomahawk cruise missiles at Serb sites in northwestern Bosnia, damaging Serb air defenses.
 - 1996 - Hurricane Hortense lashes Puerto Rico with punishing winds and torrents of rain killing seven people.
 - 2005 - Gunmen botch a brazen assassination attempt on Afghanistan's defense minister, opening fire on his convoy in Kabul, while fresh fighting in the south leaves 30 suspected militants dead.
- Today's Birthdays:
- Franz Werfel, Austrian writer (1890-1945); Sir Ranjitsinhji Vibhaji, Indian cricket player and maharaja of Nawanagar (1872-1933); Georges Bataille, French writer (1897-1962); Fay Wray, Canadian actress (1907-2004); Stephen Jay Gould, U.S. biologist and writer (1941-2002); Colin Firth, British actor (1960--); Guy Ritchie, director (1968--).



Pot shots Watching - but not listening

BY CLAY PIDGEON

I was watching the local news on TV a day or two ago when I saw something peculiar. Now, before I start on that, I have a question. The sound was turned down, so I don't really know what the story was about. Is it correct to say I was "watching" it? If I say I was watching a movie, but didn't have the sound on, you'd probably question whether I could be considered "watching". Hmm— I wonder what the ratings folks would think of that? It could make for an interesting conversation:

Ratings surveyor: Good evening sir, are you watching television?

Me: Yes, I am.

Surveyor: What program are you watching?

Me: I think it's called "House".

Surveyor: Great! On a scale of one to ten, how would you rate the program?

Me: That's hard to say—I don't have a clue what the show is about. I thought it would help me in my remodel job, but so far I haven't seen a single house—or even a contractor. All I've seen so far is a hospital and a scruffy doctor.

Surveyor: (silence, then...) Can't you tell it's a medical drama?

Me: No. See, I'm watching the show, but the sound is off.

Surveyor: I'm sorry, sir. I'm afraid I'll have to disqualify you for the survey if you're not getting the full experience.

Me: Why? You asked me if I was watching television. You didn't ask me if I was listening.

Surveyor: Well...uh...

Me: Whoops, gotta go. "Dancing with the Stars" is coming on next. Watching that with the sound off is a hoot! Those dancers look like plum fools out there twisting and squirming around. Bye!

But I digress... I was watching—but not listening—to the news, so I have no idea what this particular story was about, but they were interviewing some guy that the caption identified as a "former veteran". I have puzzled over that a lot and have come to the conclusion that there is no such thing. A fellow (or gal) is either a veteran or he isn't. My Daddy fought in World War II. He was a former soldier, a former gun mechanic, and maybe a former sergeant, but until the day he died he was a veteran! Somebody needs to give these guys a lesson in basic English! (And don't get me started on the one that told where students could get "there" supplies!)

Editor's note: Clay Pidgeon is a well-known local person who, for obvious reasons, writes under a pseudonym. We will be bringing Clay's view of the world periodically.

Replace bilingual education

By Christine Rossell, Ph.D.

English is the language of opportunity in the United States and Texas. To ensure a bright future for all Texans, teaching English effectively and as quickly as possible to those that do not speak it must be of paramount importance to educators and policy-makers.

While Texas' non-English speaking population continues to steadily increase, Texas maintains an outdated and ineffective bilingual education policy that only three other states — New York, New Jersey, and Illinois — still have.

Texas lawmakers need to examine whether the state's bilingual education programs can be more effective at teaching students English. The new research report I produced for the Texas Public Policy Foundation, *Does Bilingual Education Work? The Case of Texas*, examines this question and determines that current bilingual education programs are ineffective and should be replaced with sheltered English immersion.

Bilingual education is instruction in all subjects in the student's native tongue in a separate classroom with other students that speak the same native tongue. Sheltered English immersion is instruction in English, at a pace they can understand, by a trained English-as-a-Second language (ESL) teacher in a separate setting with other

students learning English as their second language.

In the 2008-09 school year, Texas had 448,917 students in bilingual education, of which 99 percent were Hispanic. Texas' state demographer estimates the Hispanic population will more than double from 6.6 million people in 2000 to more than 13.4 million people in 2025. Therefore, it is increasingly important for Texas to have the most effective program in place to teach English to non-English speaking children.

The Foundation's report finds that bilingual education in Texas has a negative effect on English language learner achievement. In addition, Texas does not require students in bilingual education to be tested on the English TAKS for the first three years starting in 3rd grade. This allows untested students' progress in English to disappear from public scrutiny.

Bilingual students need to be tested in English because it is the best way to hold schools accountable for whether their students are learning English and to recognize schools

that are doing an extraordinary job.

Numerous research studies indicate that sheltered English immersion programs are much more effective at teaching students English, causing states such as California, Arizona, and Massachusetts to replace bilingual education with sheltered English immersion.

Surprisingly, only 10 states have ever required bilingual education, and six of them have abandoned it, leaving Texas among a small minority as noted above.

Bilingual education also costs more than alternative approaches such as English immersion. Texas schools with a bilingual education program spend \$402 more per student than a school without a bilingual education program. Other studies find that bilingual education costs \$200 to \$700 more per pupil than alternative approaches for English language learners.

Although parents have the right to opt out of bilingual education in Texas, they often accept

the default assignment of the school, trusting that educational experts know best. Texas should make the most effective program — sheltered English immersion — the default assignment for non-English speaking students, and educate parents to allow them to place their children in a different program if they choose and resources are available.

If Texas lawmakers want to help non-English speaking students learn English as quickly as possible and be prepared for future academic success, they should replace bilingual education with sheltered English immersion. Effectively teaching English to non-English speaking students is the best possible investment for our children's future and the future of the great State of Texas.

Dr. Christine Rossell is a professor at Boston University and the author of the Texas Public Policy Foundation's new study, *Does Bilingual Education Work? The Case of Texas*, which can be downloaded at www.TexasPolicy.com.

We welcome your letters

- To insure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:
- Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
 - All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.
 - Defamatory comments will not be published.



THE PAMPA NEWS

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Body found on Colorado peak may be missing Texas pilot

TELLURIDE, Colo. (AP) — Human remains found on a southwest Colorado mountain this week may be those of a Dallas pilot whose plane crashed three years ago, authorities say.

San Miguel County Sheriff Bill Masters said he believes the body is that of 27-year-old Mark Cochran, who was missing and presumed dead after the Sept. 15, 2006, crash on Wilson Peak.

The bodies of all three passengers were found within three days of the crash.

Deputies in a helicopter spotted the fourth body Tuesday while searching for Cochran. The body was taken to the San Miguel County coroner to confirm

the identity.

"I'm 99.9 percent sure it's him, but until I get the dental records, I can't say," Coroner Bob Dempsey said Wednesday.

Cochran and his passengers were aboard a 1965 Beech Debonair when it crashed on the 14,017-foot mountain.

The passengers were identified as Brendan Culbert, 25, of Bellaire, Texas; James Flanagan, 25, of Houston; and Kristin Kirkley, 26, of Dallas.

Deputies believe Cochran's body was buried by an avalanche triggered by the crash.

Deputies have been monitoring the area since the accident. They said a rela-

tively light winter snow and quick summer melt may have exposed the body.

The team that retrieved the body also found additional bones, personal items and a door of the plane.

Authorities said the four were headed from Addison, Texas, to Telluride for a festival and had refueled in Taos, N.M.

Masters said his department has spent more than \$10,000 on the three-year search. An insurance policy on the plane covered some of the cost, but the sheriff's department paid for most of it.

"You can't just leave people up there," Masters said.

ASTRA swim party



ASTRA Service Organization at Pampa High School kicked off the start of the new school year with a swim party. From left are Robin Fernuik, Kaitlin Winegeart, Jonathan Polasek, Garrett Ericson, Evan McElwain and Trevor McVay. ASTRA is a volunteer organization for young people at Pampa High School and is sponsored by the local Altrusa club.

CHOIR CAR WASH SATURDAY



Choir members Evan McElwain, Travis Taylor, Myles Foreman, Jonathan Polasek, Trevor McVay, and Tanner Davis, Danielle Zuniga, Ashley Williams, Payton Alvey, Gabi Powell, Rachel Heuston, and Hillary Ackerwill take part in the PHS Choir Car Wash Saturday September 12 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in the NBC Bank parking lot. For more information call Whitney at 806-669-7507.



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: At the age of 72, having had two spouses over the years, I need to put in my two cents regarding the letter from "Still Hot and Bothered in Georgia" (July 8). I have learned that some women won't say "no" to a husband's amorous advances, especially in the morning. But they will try to distract him by scrubbing the tub, spotting a spider on the wall, feeding the cat or saying she forgot to fold the laundry and has to do it before it wrinkles. Whether it's conscious or unconscious, they do it to cool their husbands off on a "hot" morning.

"Still Hot and Bothered" may need to give some thought to what turns his wife on or off -- especially the timing. After all, we are from Mars and they are from Venus. -- ALEX IN BLUE BELL, PA.

DEAR ALEX: I agree that timing is important. My office was showered with responses from readers who were steamed over my response to that letter. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: The guys and I enjoy reading your column out loud to see if we agree or not with your advice. We were unanimous in our disagreement with your advice to "Still Hot and Bothered."

We would have been torqued if our wife had stayed in the shower to clean it instead of coming to bed for a good romp. We also would have showered with our wife to start the festivities early and then moved to the bedroom.

Several of the guys said they'd have gotten into the shower and made the cleaning come to a halt. There's a time for cleaning, and it's not when your husband is waiting with his motor running. -- THE GUYS IN THE ELECTRIC LAB, HARRISONBURG, VA.

DEAR ABBY: I'm not

against spontaneous cleaning (I do it myself), but the fact that the wife would rather clean than spend time with her husband tells me she's either unable to read his signals or she just doesn't care to be close and intimate with him. It also shows a lack of judgment, compassion and understanding on her part.

If the situation were reversed and he had decided he'd rather watch sports than be with his wife, I'm sure she would have been equally upset. I don't think the rules should be different for men and women in this regard. And yes, I am a woman. -- HEATHER IN KANKAKEE, ILL.

DEAR ABBY: It appears that these days couples never have time for each other. Instead, they have their "individual" priorities before their "married" priorities.

When you compare the life expectancy of women

vs. men, that woman will probably have years to clean the shower by herself without worrying about her mate. -- KEN IN SULPHUR, LA.

DEAR ABBY: Men just don't get it! Women don't have on/off switches like men do. Atmosphere is very important for us. My husband enjoys "getting close" in the mornings, too -- but I usually wake up with my to-do list running in my head. It is very difficult for me to get in the mood when there's work to be done.

Obviously, the wife in that letter wasn't ready to play. Instead of getting upset, her husband should have gotten creative and helped to set her mood. -- BRENDA IN FORT WORTH



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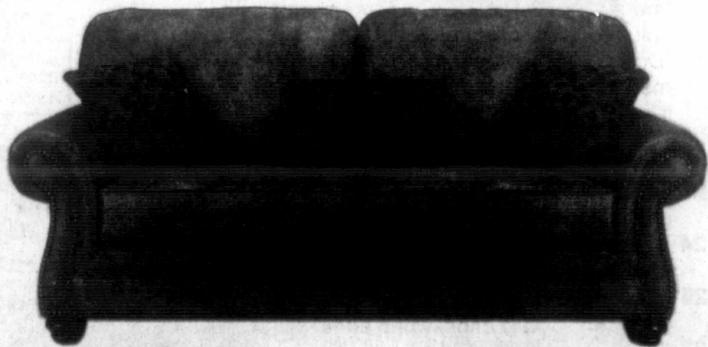


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4/ 2.75 /2 3256 sq. ft. Corner Lot Completely Remodeled including granite counter-tops! 1900 GRAPE \$225,000 obo 595-0234

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FSBO 2718 Cherokee, \$85,900, 3/1.75/2, 2000 sq/ft. No Owner Finance! 440-4443

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121 Trucks
2001 4 X

Sports

Harvesters and Steers set for Friday night battle

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Harvesters (0-2) and the Big Spring Steers (2-0) enter Friday's 7:30 p.m. game at Harvester Field with opposite records. But Pampa head coach Heath Parker and Big Spring's head coach Phillip Ritchey aren't concerned about that.

"My mindset concerning our record and their record doesn't have anything to do with it," Parker said. "I've spent a lot of time talking to the kids about really working hard to give us a chance for district."

"I know Pampa is a better team than their record shows," Ritchey said. "They lost a very close game to Borger that could have gone either way and I know they will be ready to play us Friday night."

The Harvesters and Steers play 7:30 p.m., Friday at Harvester Field. Parker said he felt good about the way his team has performed in practice.

"I think we probably actually had the best practice of the year so far," Parker said. "It's been a slow process as far as making a lot of progress, from the standpoint that it takes us awhile to get on the same page. I feel that we are starting to narrow in on that and get closer and closer to giving us a chance."

Senior Travis Hagerman said the team has worked hard in practice on containing the runner.

"The defensive ends have worked hard on their slant routes," Hagerman said. "We're just trying to get the runner contained."

Senior Nathan Webb said the running backs have worked on the tempo of the running game.

"We are working on details," Webb said. "We are working on doing the little things right."

Ritchey said he feels good about where his team stands entering the game.

"We feel very good about entering this game 2-0," Ritchey said. "We have played two good football teams and are getting ready to play another good football team."

Parker said Big Spring is a good football team and has a strong senior class.

"This is their year. This is the year they have been pointing for," Parker said.

"They are a really good football team. They are playing passionately. They are playing with a lot of speed. Their tailback has made a commitment to the University of Tulsa. So, they have division one tailback and two other men on their team that have offers and haven't decided yet."

Ritchey said Pampa's passing game is a something for his team to look out for.

"Pampa's ability to throw the ball scares me to death," Ritchey said. "They will be tough to defend. And with a veteran quarterback like they have, really makes this game a challenge for our defense."

Parker said Big Spring's offense and defense is similar to Pampa's.

"They use a little more motion and little more of a power running game, as far as pulling linemen and using receivers to kick out and block," Parker said. "They're very dangerous on the perimeter. They're passing game is adequate."

Ritchey said Pampa's defense is challenging because they have different looks.

"It makes them hard to prepare for, not really knowing what we are going to see from them on the defensive side of the ball," Ritchey said.

Big Spring's coach said his team has to play the way they did in the first two games of the season to beat Pampa.

"We will have to not make mistakes on offense," Ritchey said. "We will have to defend the pass on defense, and try to force them into making some mistakes."

Senior Braden Hunt said the key for Pampa to win is to stick to their game plan.

"We just need to outwork our opponent," Hunt said.



staff photo by Andrew Glover
Alex Clendening (14) runs through a hole in practice as the Harvesters were practicing crucial game situations. The Harvesters host Big Spring Friday night.

Pirates hit the road against Lazbuddie

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

In last week's victory against Ft. Elliot, Coach Joey Czubinski saw too many mistakes. Making the team practice on Monday, Coach Ski said his team has practiced hard this week to fix those mistakes.

"We worked on defending the run, filling gaps and not overrunning the play," Coach Ski said. "Our goal this week is to have all 6 guys on the field on the same page."

Coach Ski's Pirates (2-0)

will play away from Shaw Field for the first time this season, as they travel to Happy to face Lazbuddie (1-1) Friday. Coach said he is looking forward to this game.

"We haven't been away from our field in 6 weeks," Ski said.

Coach Ski said just like their previous opponents Lazbuddie runs an unbalanced wing.

"It's a run oriented offense Ski said. "But they do jump into spread a few times."

Defensively, Ski said they run a 33 look (three lineman and three linebackers). "They will run that against a run team or a wide team," Lefors coach said.

Coach Ski said his team will win by simply executing their game plan.

"We will win by everyone doing their job on each play, not by doing more than they need to, just by doing their job and trusting their teammates to do theirs," Coach Ski said.

General Information for Home Varsity Football Games

Gates to Varsity Football at Harvester Stadium will be open at 6:15 p.m. (No Early admittance)

Sections L-M-N are Reserved Seating only, during Varsity Games.

In the interest of common courtesy and safety in our facilities for all involved, please do not sit or stand in the walk ways or under the bleachers.

All students and children should be seated in the stands with their parents or specified areas. JH students may sit in the JH Zone or with their parents/family member. HS students are to sit in the RIOT area but may also sit with parents or other family members.

When you arrive in the stadium, Pampa ISD employees and officers from the Pampa Police Department will serve as security.

No outside drink or food containers will be allowed into the stadium or gymnasiums.

We also understand that viewing the game from the stands is not a viable option for some of our community with special needs, and we will work to accommodate those needs. Pampa ISD officials or Pampa Police officers will assist you with locating an accessible area to view the games.

In case of inclement weather, the game will continue. Only conditions which endanger the student athletes and coaches such as lightning will delay a game. Pampa ISD does have a dangerous storm policy/protocol for such events. Spectators/Fans will be instructed by the PA on where/what they should do for their safety. We appreciate your patience and understanding in these rare occurrences.

Hidden Hills

Senior Scramble Sept. 9

First—60

Whitey White
Rod Porter
James Richardson
Joe Stringer
Waldon Haynes

Second—61

Bill Hammer
John Hervey
Buddy Epperson
Oscar Sargent

Third—61

Ron Parnell
Jim Batton
Gerry Owens
Ron Fields

Fourth—61

Roy Don Stephens
Chuck Albus
Bob Young
Bill Brown

Fifth—61

Terry Holt
Bob Swope
Gary Brewer
J.C. Furgason

Sixth—62

Roy Harper
Ray Covalt
Larry Heard
Richard Abbott
Marvin Allison

Seventh—63

Pat Montoya
Dick Durham
Mike Frye
James Gray

Closest to Pin #6

Ron Parnell

Closest to Pin #15

Jimmy Cartrell

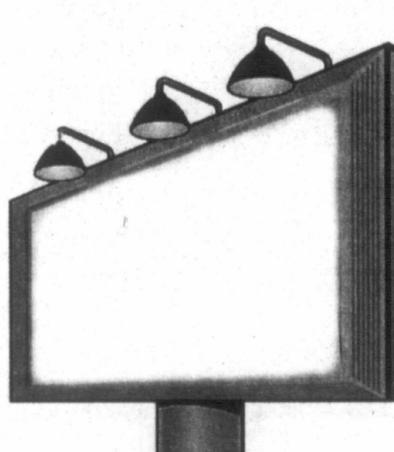
Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

2	4	9	1	8	3	6	7	5
7	1	3	5	2	6	8	4	9
8	6	5	7	4	9	2	1	3
9	3	4	2	1	5	7	8	6
6	2	7	8	9	4	3	5	1
1	5	8	3	6	7	9	2	4
5	8	6	4	3	2	1	9	7
3	7	1	9	5	8	4	6	2
4	9	2	6	7	1	5	3	8

		7						3
6	4							2
5	3					7	6	9
7			1					4
		8			4			
	2		7					5
	9							
					8		5	4
		5		9	6		7	

Level: Intermediate



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* Survey conducted by the National Newspaper Association and the Center for Advanced Social Research at the Missouri School of Journalism at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Researchers surveyed adults 18 years old and up in markets with fewer than 100,000 residents.